

EU/INTPA policy framework and toolbox to work with local authorities

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PFD Regional Webinars on “Understanding EU funding
mechanisms and application procedures”



Background: Local Authorities (LAs) in EU Development Policy

- **Landmark EC Communication (2013)** on *Empowering Local Authorities in Partner Countries for enhanced governance and more effective development outcomes* – Strong focus on governance and development, capacity building, decentralization, decentralized cooperation and TALD approach
- **NDICI (2021-2027)**: confirms EU political and financial commitments towards LAs BUT ‘geographisation of EU aid’: major shift → disappearance of the earmarked budget line for local authorities and introduction of the **500 million EUR (indicative) target**
- **Next MFF (2028-2034)**: Global Europe draft Regulation



Menu of INTPA tools and modalities to support LAs in partner countries

- “Classical” country and regional programmes in different sectors (varying degrees of involvement, from beneficiaries to direct financing)
- **Budget support** in decentralized context (examples: Timor Leste, Cameroon, Bhutan)
- Participation of LAs as co-applicants in country **Calls for Proposals for civil society organizations**
- **Decentralized cooperation** ([“Partnerships for Sustainable Cities”](#) program, [IURC](#)) and [TAIEX support](#)
- Strategic partnerships with five **Global Associations of LAs** (UCLG, AIMF, CLGF, PLATFORMA and UCLG-Africa)



LAs participation in the Global Gateway

- The EU [Global Gateway \(GG\)](#) Strategy, in a nutshell
- « [Localizing the Global Gateway](#) »: why does it matter?
- Where are we now? Mapping ([Forum 2025](#)) → 46 examples (infra & 360 degree projects) identified across Africa, Asia, LAC, MENA and ENEST regions!
- Different forms of engagement: from consultation to « driving seat » and access to funding
- But overall, still early stages/untapped potential (many structural constraints – not for all projects or all LAs)
- How to scale-up this engagement in the future?



Reminder: practical tips!

- Reach out to EUDs (focal point? Governance team?) and Team Europe actors present in your country to get information about ongoing/future EU programming (in particular GG pipelines), in-country dialogue platforms and possible opportunities for partnerships
- Engage also with the relevant national authorities and financial institutions on the GG implementation in your country
- Seek information, contacts, advices and opportunities for support through national, regional and global associations of local authorities



Thank you!